

Amendment dated 11/22/05
Response to Office Action dated 2/6/06

Application No. 09/322,073

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4-10, and 12-17 are pending. Claims 1, 2, 4-10, and 12-17 stand rejected by this Office Action.

Applicant acknowledges the withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1, 2, and 4-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 101. Applicant also acknowledges that claims independent claims 1, 9, and 17 would be allowable if amended in accordance with the suggestions provided by the Examiner.

The Office Action requests that the specification should be amended to reflect changes in drawings, correct typographical errors, and incorporate reference character ; or delete reference characters to ensure accuracy with current drawings and/or changes to the drawings. Applicant filed amendments to the specification and submitted formal drawings on February 24, 2003. Applicant believes that the corresponding amendments have updated the specification and drawings in accordance with the Examiner's request.

Double Patenting

Claims 1, 9, and 17 are rejected on the grounds of nonstatutory double patenting over claims 1 and 2 of U.S. Patent No. 6,721,713.

Applicant is filing a terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321 and is consequently requesting reconsideration of claims 1, 9, and 17.

Claims 1, 9, and 17 are rejected on the grounds of nonstatutory double patenting over claims 1 and 10 of U.S. Patent No. 6,957,186.

Applicant is filing a terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321 and is consequently requesting reconsideration of claims 1, 9, and 17.

Claims 1, 9, and 17 are rejected on the grounds of nonstatutory double patenting over claims 1, 7, and 13 of U.S. Patent No. 6,615,166.

Applicant is filing a terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321 and is consequently requesting reconsideration of claims 1, 9, and 17.

Claims 1, 9, and 17 are rejected on the grounds of nonstatutory double patenting over claims 1, 10, and 19 of U.S. Patent No. 6,536,037.

Amendment dated 11/22/05
Response to Office Action dated 2/6/06

Application No. 09/322,073

Applicant is filing a terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321 and is consequently requesting reconsideration of claims 1, 9, and 17.

Claims 1, 9, and 17 are rejected on the grounds of nonstatutory double patenting over claims 1, 9, and 17 of U.S. Patent No. 6,519,571.

Applicant is filing a terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321 and is consequently requesting reconsideration of claims 1, 9, and 17.

Claims 1, 9, and 17 are rejected on the grounds of nonstatutory double patenting over claims 1, 10, and 19 of U.S. Patent No. 6,473,794.

Applicant is filing a terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321 and is consequently requesting reconsideration of claims 1, 9, and 17.

Claims 1, 9, and 17 are provisionally rejected on the grounds of nonstatutory double patenting over claims 1, 10, and 19 of copending Application No. 10/662,037.

Applicant is filing a terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321 and is consequently requesting reconsideration of claims 1, 9, and 17.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-2, 4, 8-10, 12, and 16-17 are rejected by the Office Action under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,249,769 (Ruffin) in view of PR Newswire.

Applicant is amending independent claims 1, 9, and 17 in accordance with the suggestions provided in Section 8 of the Office Action. Moreover, claims 2, 4, and 8 ultimately depend from claim 1, and claims 10, 12, and 16 ultimately depend from claim 9. Applicant requests reconsideration of claims 1-2, 4, 8-10, 12, and 16-17.

Claims 5-6 and 13-14 are rejected by the Office Action under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ruffin and PR Newswire further in view of Official Notice “ON1” (regarding IT business services).

Claims 5-6 and 13-14 depend from independent claims 1 and 9 and are patentable for at least the above reasons. Applicant requests reconsideration of claims 5-6 and 13-14.

Amendment dated 11/22/05
Response to Office Action dated 2/6/06

Application No. 09/322,073

Claims 7 and 15 are rejected by the Office Action under 35 USC 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Ruffin and PR Newswire further in view of Official Notice "ON2" (regarding techniques to provide visual clarity to illustrations).

Claims 7 and 15 depend from independent claims 1 and 9 and are patentable for at least the above reasons. Applicant requests reconsideration of claims 7 and 15.

CONCLUSIONS

All objections and rejections have been addressed. Hence, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 6, 2006



Kenneth F. Smolik
Registration No. 44,344
BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.
10 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 3000
Chicago, IL 60606-7407
Telephone: 312-463-5000
Facsimile: 312-463-5001